

Sustainable Energy Committee – Minutes-draft
Conference Room G - Town Hall
Friday, October 14, 2011
7:45 am – 9:00 am

Committee Members Present:

Christopher Ketchen, Chair
Richard Joyce
Suzy Littlefield
Robert Cooper
Beth DeSombre
Molly Fairchild, Sustainable Energy Coordinator

By phone: Ellen Korpi

Absent: Scott Bender

Meeting called to order at 7:45 am

Citizen's Speak-: no one present

Minutes from 9/23/11 – approved.

Schedule for SEC Meetings: Oct 28, Nov 18th, Dec 2nd and 16th. This will transition the SEC Meetings back to the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, which fits with the holidays in November and December. The Committee agreed to skip the first November meeting as it would be just one week after the Oct 28th meeting.

EPA Green Power Community:

Mr. Joyce reported on the meeting with Shelley Kaplan and Roy Cornelius at Babson College to discuss the Town's goal for emissions reduction and the opportunity to be designated by the EPA as a Green Power Community. If the College meets the 5% renewable level by participating in the voluntary renewable energy program, they will be designated a Green Power Partner, by the EPA. In order for the Town to meet the town-wide 3% goal to be designated a Green Power Community, it would be very important to gain their participation, as Babson uses about 8% of the Town's power.

Mr. Ketchen and Ms Korpi also agreed that the meeting went very well, and that it was clear that the College understood the public relations value of receiving the Green Power Partner designation, for the College.

Mr. Joyce made a motion that "The Sustainable Energy Committee makes a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen that the Town strive to achieve the EPA Green Power Communities designation" that was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Ms. DeSombre emphasized the importance of communicating directly with the president of Wellesley College. The College is now using the AASHE STARS rating instead of the Green Report Card, which provides a more detailed rating system that requires more than just energy efficiency measures and cogeneration for a high rating. Wellesley College currently has a silver rating, but scores only about 3/16 points on the energy portion of the rating.

Mr. Ketchen suggested that he will schedule the SEC to meet with the Selectmen in the next two weeks, to discuss the opportunity to become an EPA Green Power Community.

Transportation Working Group – Report and feedback

Mr. Ketchen reported that the PTWG still needs to go before the School Committee for feedback on the Report, but has already met with the Selectmen, the SEC and the Planning Board. Following comments from the Committee on the draft of the letter, Mr. Ketchen made a motion that “The Sustainable Energy Committee endorse the recommendations of the PTWG to join the MWRTA and create a permanent committee (TAG)”, which was unanimously approved.

Farmers’ Market Update: Ms. Fairchild reported that the plans for the Farmers’ Market have been slowed down by the Selectmen’s reluctance to have the Town play an organizational role in the Farmer’s Market, and so the volunteers are redirecting efforts to gain organizational support from an existing non-profit group.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: October 28, 2011